

The Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum holds more than a million artifacts relating to the Oklahoma City Bombing. With help from museum staff, we photographed a few items—most of which are not on display in the museum—that tell the story of Oklahoma’s worst day.

What REMAINS

By MEGAN ROSSMAN

Photography by LORI DUCKWORTH

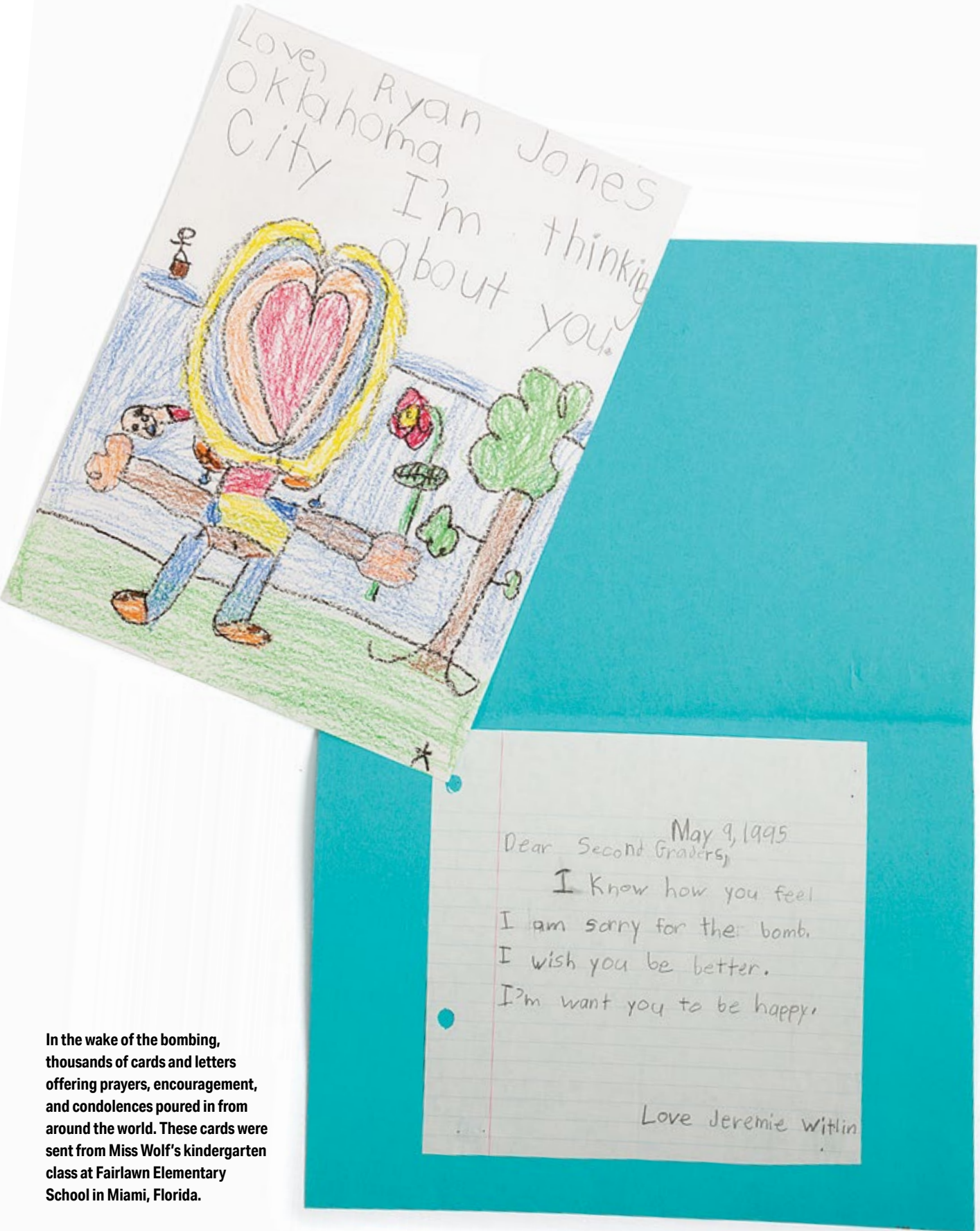
Glass—not just from the Murrah Building but from more than 250 of 324 damaged structures in the vicinity—caused the majority of injuries and several deaths on April 19, 1995. The brown pieces here came from the north side of the Murrah Building along Fifth Street—where the bomb was located—while the lighter pieces came from the south, east, and west sides.



Remains of the Ryder truck that contained the 6,000-pound bomb



Originally categorized in the Unclaimed Personal Possessions Collection, the watch later was identified by Dan McKinney as belonging to his wife Linda McKinney, an office manager for the Secret Service. The owner of the calendar is unknown. Both are among thousands of everyday items found at the scene of the bombing.



In the wake of the bombing, thousands of cards and letters offering prayers, encouragement, and condolences poured in from around the world. These cards were sent from Miss Wolf's kindergarten class at Fairlawn Elementary School in Miami, Florida.



As the visor inscription reads, "This is a chief's helmet from the Oklahoma City Fire Department. It has been signed by the fire chief and other personnel from the downtown fire stations who responded to the Alfred P. Murrah bombing at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 1995."



This putter set was found on the chair of Donald Burns Sr.—a construction analyst at Housing and Urban Development and an avid golfer—in the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial. Museum staff later discovered that his daughter had left it while visiting from California.



Susan Ferrell, an attorney-advisor with Housing and Urban Development, was among those killed in the bombing. Ferrell was a bellydancer, and these finger cymbals and bracelets were left on her chair at the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial.



Members of Dolores "Dee" Stratton's family left this T-shirt for her on the fence before the memorial was completed. Stratton was a military personnel clerk at the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion.

ROBERT MILLS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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